

## CLAIMS

What is claimed:

- 1           1.     An apparatus for mounting a printing sleeve on a press cylinder,  
2     said sleeve having an outer shape, said apparatus comprising:  
3                 an inherently stiff annular holding element having an inner shape which is  
4     matched to the outer shape of said sleeve, said holding element having mutually facing  
5     ends defining a slit having a width;  
6                 at least one clamp which urges the ends toward each other so that the  
7     holding element can clamp the sleeve with a clamping force which is limited by the  
8     width of the slit; and  
9                 means for expanding the holding element so that the clamping force on  
10    the sleeve can be released.
- 1           2.     An apparatus as in claim 1 wherein the width of the slit is chosen so  
2     that, when said ends form a butt joint, the holding element has an inside diameter which  
3     is less than or equal to the outer diameter of the sleeve.
- 1           3.     An apparatus as in claim 1 wherein said at least one clamp  
2     comprises a rubber band which surrounds the holding element.
- 1           4.     An apparatus as in claim 1 wherein said holding element has an  
2     inner wall with a depression having a vacuum connection so that the surface of the  
3     sleeve can be sucked against the inner wall.

1           5.     An apparatus as in claim 1 wherein the holding element has an  
2 inner wall coated with a material which results in a high friction contact with said sleeve.

1           6.     An apparatus as in claim 1 wherein said means for expanding the  
2 holding element comprises a spreading element received between said ends.

1           7.     An apparatus as in claim 1 further comprising a clamping band  
2 placed around the outside of the holding element, and at least one actuating device for  
3 actuating the clamping band, said actuating device being one of a mechanical,  
4 pneumatic, hydraulic, and electric actuating device.

1           8.     An apparatus as in claim 7 further comprising a supporting ring  
2 surrounding said clamping band, said clamping band comprising one of a hydraulically  
3 and pneumatically inflatable clamping element supported on the outside by said  
4 supporting ring and exerting an inward holding force on said holding element when  
5 inflated.

1           9.     An apparatus as in claim 1 further comprising first axial stops on  
2 said holding element for axially positioning the sleeve, and second axial stops for axially  
3 positioning the holding element relative to press cylinder, whereby the sleeve can be  
4 mounted in accurate page register on the press cylinder.

1           10.    An apparatus as in claim 1 wherein said holding element comprises  
2 a marking which can be aligned with a seam on the sleeve, said apparatus further  
3 comprising an element which can engage a receptacle on the press cylinder so that the

4 seam can be aligned in a predetermined circumferential position with respect to the  
5 cylinder.

1                    11. An apparatus as in claim 1 further comprising damping elements  
2 which grip the sleeve circumferentially and damp vibrations of the sleeve.

1                    12. An apparatus as in claim 1 further comprising a guide which  
2 cooperates with a mounting aid on a press cylinder to guide the sleeve coaxially with  
3 respect to a cylinder axis as the sleeve is fitted to the cylinder.